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THE JERUSALEM POST

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1954

PRICE: 90 PRUTA
VOL. XXX, No. 7794

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Marginal Column

By EHEV LAQUEUR

THE expert in the Treasury wasn't quite convinced that we were going to write sense on income tax. After all, how could one deal with such complicated subjects as the problem of incidence on profits, the concept of taxable income, service or satisfaction income and many other important and highly intricate issues appearing in the daily press? However that may be, ever since Canton Baselstadt in 1840 and Sir Robert Peel in Britain in 1842 introduced income tax, a large and growing number of people have shown a close and understandable interest in what has become, as one economist calls it, the sheet anchor of the revenue in most advanced countries, the outstanding source of revenue in all developed states.

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THE complaint most frequently voiced is that the rate of taxes in this country is higher than elsewhere, which of course is not true if we except Tangier, Saudia and other paradises for the rich. The highest rate in this country is 80%, while in America and Britain it reaches 90% and more in the highest income brackets. A second complaint, however, is far more difficult to refute—if refuted it can be: The fact that the amount of exempted income in this country is far lower than elsewhere, and that, on the other hand, the rate of increase is far too rapid, reaching its maximum at a comparatively low level. In other words: both the low and medium level income brackets pay far more than people on a corresponding level do elsewhere. A man in the U.S. earning $3,000 a year who supports a wife and three children, is entirely exempted, while the man earning IL.3,000 in this country has to pay a sizeable sum. The comparison (on the IL.1—$1 basis) is even harsher for those in this country as far as the IL.4,000—IL.6,000 group a year is concerned.

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ONE has to make comparisons with Western countries, as Russia has no progressive income tax system. A maximum of 13% is reached very early (at 12,000 rubles a year) which is between $1,000—$2,000 in buying power. This maximum rate does not change regardless of whether one earns fifteen thousand or a million rubles a year. The main revenue of the Soviet Treasury is from the indirect turnover tax on sales, and affects rich and poor alike. Then there is the yearly purchase of State loans which is proportional but not progressive.

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NOR would it be wise to refer to Italy and France, where the degree reached by tax evasion has corrupted the body politic of society and endangered the very existence of the state. But how account for the obvious fact that both the lower income groups (excluding the very lowest) and the medium income brackets are far worse off in this country than say in the U.S. or Great Britain, where progressive taxation has almost reached perfection. The reason given is that, generally speaking, incomes in this country are much lower, and if high rates of taxation were to be brought into effect only at the same level as in the U.S. and Britain, the Treasury simply would not obtain the revenue needed. As for the privileged position of the rich in this country — are not investors needed? In the final analysis it is a question of political and economic expedience, with some compromises with social justice.

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THESE counter-arguments cannot be dismissed lightly; nevertheless a number of important questions remains. Has the 80% limit in the highest brackets really contributed towards the development of this country and the attraction of investments? Who mainly has profited from this arrangement? If it has not served the interests of the Israel economy, as there are reasons to assume, should not the whole matter be re-examined with a view to introducing a less rapid increase in the rate of taxes and a higher rate in the very highest income brackets? Another important task is to improve methods of tax collection, especially from the highest income brackets, while establishing unrealistically high estimates for the free professions with a tacit undertaking of reduction later on is probably not the surest way to establish mutual confidence. Some persons believe that the system of paying taxes on an estimated current income is an invention of the devil, which, one is reliably told, is not true. But refunding surplus payments in time and without prodding would surely be instrumental in bringing about a higher morale among taxpayers than the one now prevailing.

Jerusalem, February 16.

Bus Stoppage Off, Some Fares May Rise 19%

The bus strike threatened for today was cancelled last night after agreement was reached on an average basic rise of 16% which, on the basis of future computations, may reach 19%.

At a Press conference in the Knesset last night, Mr. Haim Razily, Director-General of the Ministry of Communications, announced that, in addition to the 16% average rise, agreement was reached on:

- weekly "workers'" bus tickets at a 25% reduction;
- joint Ministry-Cooperatives control of the Amortization Fund (for purchasing new buses), including dual signatures for withdrawals from the Fund;
- similar control and conditions to govern the Building Fund;
- Ministry representation on the traffic and financial committees of the cooperatives;
- Ministry supervision of the printing of bus tickets and their use.

In an official statement, the bus cooperatives said that the agreement does not meet their demands, and that it does not even cover the rises in costs. They pointed out that this is a "compromise" in consideration of the "situation."

Earlier Mr. Razily had told the Press that the weekly "workers'" tickets would be available to all who wish to purchase them. The ticket would be marked for two trips, and if one of the trips is not taken, it is forfeited.

The ticket would be valid from the beginning of service in the morning until 8:30 a.m. and from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

To cover the loss stemming from the 25% reduction of the nominal price of these tickets, the Ministry, in rounding off fares for various lines, must grant many rises to the higher round number. (That is, if a line now operates on a 45 pruta fare, and 16% or 7.2 pruta are added the fare would be 55 instead of 52.2).

In consequence, Mr. Razily said, the actual rise might be about 19%. If the demand for these tickets is limited, the cooperatives would in fact benefit from a higher rise than agreed upon.

This point, he stressed, had been the key issue in the negotiations.

After the Press conference, at which Mr. Michael Bar, Road Transport Controller, Mr. M. Orion, Supervisor of Tariffs, Mr. Moss Fairmont, Statistician, were present, *The Jerusalem Post* learned that Dan had been the most intransigent negotiator, while Eshed and Hamekasher had been cautious about striking.

During the next few days negotiations will continue on computing the increase for each line in the country. After consultation with the various Local Councils involved, the Road Transport Controller will issue an ordinance giving legal form to the increases, it was stated.

Budget Cut IL.20m; Ready for Knesset

The 1954/55 budget estimates will be tabled in the Knesset today or tomorrow, the Government spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* last night. An extraordinary Cabinet session yesterday reached agreement on the expenditure estimates, it was stated, the revenue having already been agreed upon.

Informed sources suggested that the original draft had been cut by as much as IL.20m.

The official communique said:

The Cabinet at a special session yesterday wound up its discussion of the expenditure side of the 1954/55 budget, which is now ready for presentation to the Knesset.

Minister of Health J. Serlin said at question time in the Knesset yesterday that he would not approve any increase of personnel in Government hospitals because of the changes which are being introduced in his Ministry's budget following a Cabinet decision.

"I would be reluctant to curtail services, even though the present staff would be under great-er strain," Mr. Serlin added.

Dr. H. Rubin (Mapam) had asked if the Tel Hashomer Hospital was understaffed. Mr. Serlin answered that between April and December of last year, 543 to 737 beds were occupied, while the staff of 737 was calculated to serve 665 beds.

Bidault's 4-Point Plan To Heal Europe Breach

BERLIN, Monday. — French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault today backed the West's detailed rejection of the Soviet plan for European security with a four-point proposal which, he said, might ultimately bridge the division of Europe.

The plan, as laid down at today's 22nd meeting of the four Foreign Ministers provided:

1. That the existing territorial divisions must be recognised, and that the four powers should work towards the establishment of common institutions to which all European states would belong without renouncing their existing alliances.
2. That Germany would formally "pledge not to seek to modify the regulations which would limit its liberty of action in the military domain," and that the war-time pledges of the Allied powers would come into force in the event of any aggression.
3. Germany would accept the obligations of the U.N. Charter and participate without restriction in that world organization.
4. Germany would be barred from having her own unrestricted military leadership, "which would exclude all possibility of aggression."

Contention Rejected

Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov heard the Western Ministers categorically reject his plan for a European collective security pact which they consider would destroy their defence system. They had originally rejected the plan last Wednesday, and today motivated their rejection in a session which lasted for nearly 4½ hours.

British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden declared that he had not come to Berlin "to apologize for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, still less to discuss its dissolution." Any proposals made by the Soviet delegation "in our common search for security" must recognize the continued existence of NATO, he stressed. "We will not cast aside the means of ensuring our own safety and freedom."

The British Minister said that his five-point plan on Germany submitted in the first week of the conference had provided the only basis for German reunification. Mr. Molotov, he added, had not offered any practical alternative.

When M. Bidault asked the Foreign Minister, "Will Mr. Molotov please tell me, with a yes or no, whether NATO is compatible with his treaty?" Mr. Molotov did not answer directly, but said his plan was an alternative to the European Army treaty, and therefore directed against it, for it was aimed at a resurgence of German militarism.

The Soviet Minister concluded by saying that, having done his best to answer M. Bidault's question, he now had one of his own — "Are the three Ministers in favour or are they opposed to the idea of collective security in Europe?"

Dulles Replies

U.S. Secretary of State Dulles replied that the West had tried to obtain security for the world through various ways — the Atlantic Charter, the declaration on liberated Europe at Yalta and through the U.N. Charter. And while there was nothing wrong with the wording of these agreements, what was wrong was that a feeling of insecurity had grown up in the world because some people thought that other countries were not living up to their words.

That is why in addition to the U.N. other regional security systems have grown up between nations which for a long time have had friendly associations, "and which trusted each other."

A Russian spokesman quoted Mr. Molotov as saying that even though the four powers might differ widely on many aspects of the German question, they might be able to agree on some — for instance, on his proposal to withdraw troops. This would certainly be a welcome alleviation for the German people.

He added that if this was difficult for the other delegations, the Soviet Union might be willing to withdraw her proposals for four-power control of police, and substitute Soviet control in East Germany and three-power control in West Germany. Or, he added, the idea of control could be dropped altogether.

He said that he was willing to discuss a suggestion that there should be no supervisory machinery at all after the withdrawal of occupation forces, and called for more concrete proposals on this subject.

Conditions for Withdrawal

Objections to the withdrawal of occupation troops did not mean, Mr. Molotov thought, that the conference should ignore all other measures which were desired by the German people and would further European peace. What was necessary was for the four powers to discover under what conditions they could agree to the withdrawal of occupation forces from Germany.

Regarding the Soviet proposal which provides that the U.S. and People's China would attend meetings of his European security organization as observers, Mr. Molotov stated that this proposal had aroused great criticism. But the USSR was prepared to formulate this point differently. "Let us not just have criticism, let there be constructive proposals," he added.

The Ministers agreed to meet in West Berlin tomorrow to resume the discussion of the Austrian state treaty, if the Austrian delegation was ready to do so. Otherwise they would carry on with the problem of Germany and European security.

(UP, Reuter)

Big 4 Make 'Some' Progress on China

BERLIN, Monday (Reuter).— The four Foreign Ministers made "some progress" at their secret talks today in narrowing the gap between Soviet and Western views on a meeting with People's China, conference sources reported. The closed meeting preceded today's regular session.

Another secret session on the Far East will be held on Wednesday. The conference ends on Thursday.

Violent Clashes At Luang Prabang

SAIGON, Monday (Reuter). — French Union forces have engaged several Vietminh regular units which have infiltrated south of the Mekong River bend, about 20 kms. north of Luang Prabang, the royal capital of Laos.

A French High Command communique reported violent clashes, with casualties on both sides. But the Army emphasized that the main body of the Vietminh "Iron Division" was still about 50 kms. north-east of the ancient capital.

Other army reports said that the Vietminh yesterday strongly attacked a French naval convoy on the Red River, 35 kms. south-east of Hanoi. Several French marines were wounded.

The French communique claimed that the French had recaptured Piet Bon, an outpost 40 kms. south-east of the rebel-held town of Kontum in central Annam.

Communists Hit Return Of 17 PoW's to UN

HONG KONG, Monday (Reuter). — The Communist Command in Korea has "strongly protested" against the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission's plan to return to the U.N. 17 prisoners accused of murdering fellow prisoners, the Communist New China News Agency reported yesterday.

The agency said that the protest was made on Saturday by General Lee Sang Cho, the Communist representative, in a letter to General A.S. Thimayya, the Indian Chairman of the Commission.

South Korean Ex-Minister Jailed for Shielding Spy

SEOUL, Monday (UP). — Chin Hun Shik, dismissed former South Korean Home Minister, was sentenced today to 18 months in prison on charges of failing to arrest a Communist spy and accepting bribes.

Chin was convicted for violation of the national security code because he "protected" a South Korean editor, Chung Kuk Un, who was sentenced to death on espionage charges.

Chin was dismissed from the Cabinet last September by President Syngman Rhee for misconduct while in office. He was then accused of misappropriation of funds collected from Korean farmers.

'Little Balkan' General Staffs Said Working as One

BELGRADE, Monday (Reuter). — Greek Minister of National Defence M. Kanelopulos was quoted by the Yugoslav News Agency Tanjug today as saying that "the General Staffs of Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia are working as three sections of one single national general staff."

The Minister made the statement when reviewing international affairs on the occasion of the first anniversary of the signing of the Balkan Pact by Greece, Turkey, and Yugoslavia in Ankara.

"The military consultations of the general staffs of the three countries are based on real brotherhood and deep sincerity," the Minister added.

Dutch Protest Arrest Of 30 in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Monday (UP). — The Dutch Government today protested the Indonesian Government's action in holding 30 Dutchmen without explaining fully why they were arrested.

A communique issued by the Dutch High Commissioner stated that no satisfactory reply had been received to seven written requests for an explanation.

The High Commissioner's office was said to be unable to give consular assistance to the seven men, even to see them.

94 MAU MAU KILLED IN WEEK

NAIROBI, Monday (Reuter). — General Sir George Erskine's headquarters announced today that security forces had killed 94 terrorists in the past week, wounded and captured 12, and detained 69 suspects.

One European was killed and four wounded in action during the same period. Terrorists killed 20 loyal African civilians.

First American Arms Arrive in Spain

CARTAGENA, Monday (UP).— The U.S. cargo ship Northwestern Victory arrived today carrying the first shipment of American arms to Spain. U.S. Ambassador James Dunn and high Spanish officials greeted the vessel, which pulled into a dock where freight cars already were marshalled to distribute the weapons.

Spain Regrets Damage To British Property

LONDON, Monday (Reuter). — The Spanish Government has told Britain that it regrets the damage to British property caused by recent anti-British demonstrations in Spain, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, told the Commons today.

SHIP IT BY KLM

US Builds Emergency 'Atom Age' H.Q.

WASHINGTON, Monday (Reuter). — America has built an "atom age" emergency headquarters in a mountain for the U.S. Military High Command, a Defence Department spokesman said today.

No details have been given but it is thought to have cost $35m. and to be safe against either atom bombs, poison gas or bacteriological weapons.

2 Frenchmen Fathom Unknown Depths

DAKAR, Monday.—Two officers of the French Navy today set a world depth record, piloting their yellow steel bathyscaphe 4,050 metres down into the unknown darkness of the Atlantic Ocean. The bathyscaphe had been towed 260 kms. to sea from Dakar.

The old record of 3,150 metres was set in the Mediterranean last year by Professor Auguste Piccard.

The French moved their operations to the Atlantic, well clear of the Continental Shelf, as the land-locked Mediterranean was not deep enough.

The naval officers peered through the Cyclops eye of the bathyscaphe at soil never before seen by living man. Twin 100-watt headlamps cut refracted beams through the blackness, illuminating strange creatures distorted by the tremendous pressure.

Orange Shrimps

As Corvette Commander Georges Houot and his Engineer, Pierre Willem, submerged, brilliant sunlight filtered down. Then the water turned green and later indigo, and as the blackness set in they switched on their lights. Brilliant tiny fish darted in and out of their beams. With one eye on their instruments and the other on their specially thick porthole, they could see orange shrimps looking as though already cooked.

The depth boat has no propulsive motors. It was towed to the diving site during the night. It differs from previous deep-sea exploration gadgets since it is free of any attachment to the mother-ship.

Its thick steel sides can take a theoretical pressure of 1,600 kilograms per square centimetre. This means that if Houot and Willem were willing theoretically they could attain a diving range of 16,000 metres.

Today's plunge was made in a submarine "valley" where the floor of the Atlantic Ocean buckles downward off the edge of the Shelf.

A Sunderland flying boat, the towing vessel and a trawler were the only craft in the region for the record attempt. The bathyscaphe was expected to be towed back to Dakar for examination.

(Reuter, UP)

MARAUDERS IN AMBUSH KILL VILLAGE GUARD

Jerusalem Post Military Reporter

A settler of Mahaseya, near Hartuv, was killed by marauders lying in ambush on Sunday night.

Ya'acov Avraham, 45, was touring the village on watchman's duty at 9.30 p.m., when shots, fired from behind a stone wall 2½ metres away, felled him.

The body, supine, was found later by the police. Two Thompson sub-machine gun cartridges were found lying on his chest, and two slugs, one twisted, were discovered on the ground when the body was removed.

The Thompson sub-machine gun, is the standard weapon of the National Guard in Jordan border villages.

A post mortem, performed at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, revealed 13 bullet wounds, fired from five directions. An investigation was held by Commandant J. Ringlet of the Belgian Army, of the Truce Supervision Organization, for nearly six hours yesterday afternoon. An emergency meeting of the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission is expected to take place in Jerusalem today.

Mishaseya is a Yemenite village nearly 10 kilometres from the border. Police found a shallow slit trench for two persons behind the wall, but no tracks could be discovered since the rain had obliterated any possible imprint on the surrounding grass, and the terrain further away is rocky.

Reconstruction of Crime

The reconstruction of the incident, which emerged from the police and military investigations, indicates that the victim — a short, emaciated, bearded man — was making his rounds, followed at some distance by a younger companion.

He was hit when he entered a wadi, through which his path lay and which separates the new settlement from several old terraces divided by low stone walls.

The second watchman ran to arouse the chief watchman who lives close by.

Villagers, rushing to the spot, reported hearing another burst of automatic fire, but when they reached the scene, Avraham was already dead and his rifle missing.

During the few intervening moments, the assailants must have jumped onto the path, fired another burst into the fallen man and fled with the murdered man's weapon.

Some villagers maintain that they heard a rustle in the grass on the hill above them, but nothing could be seen although the night was moonlit.

The M.A.C. investigation lasted from 10.30 a.m. to 6.30 a.m. both at Mahaseya and at the hospital in Jerusalem.

It was the first time since the Yahud incident in mid-October that marauders, evidently intent only on killing, had succeeded in their aim. Other incidents, including those where fatalities had occurred, were either border clashes or could be explained as the acts of marauders operating on the spur of the moment when confronted by defensive forces.

Mahaseya is a poor village, inhabited mainly by immigrants from Yemen, and could present little lure to thieves.

Customary Method

The method used by the killers was the usual one adopted by the gangs to intimidate by murder. The additional burst of fire, directed into the dead body, is also typical of their practice.

A guard at Mahaseya settlement, in the Jerusalem Corridor, was murdered on Sunday evening by Jordanian fire, the Army spokesman announced yesterday.

At 9.30 p.m., two guards were patrolling the settlement's perimeter when fire suddenly was opened on them at close range. One watchman was killed outright; the second succeeded in withdrawing unharmed.

The Mixed Armistice Commission is to meet in emergency session this afternoon at Israel's request, after U.N. observers carry out an on-the-spot investigation, the spokesman said.

("Patrol Attacked"—P.3, Col.4)

AFTER MIDNIGHT

Israel's Minister of Labour, Mrs. Golda Myerson, arrived in Stockholm by air last night. She was welcomed by Israel Minister to Stockholm Avraham Nissan and by representatives of the Swedish-Israel Society and the Swedish Department of Social Affairs.

Eban Warns UN on Egypt's Flouting International Law

Refutes 'State of War' Claim

UNITED NATIONS, Monday. — Israel Ambassador Abba Eban told the U.N. Security Council that "a very grave turn" had now taken place in an already serious situation in connection with Egypt's illegal blockade of Israel shipping through the Suez Canal and to the port of Eilat.

Addressing the Council, which resumed its hearing of the Israel complaint against Egypt today, the Israel delegate spoke after the Egyptian representative had denied that her blockade violates international law, because a state of war exists between Egypt and Israel.

The Egyptian's speech, Mr. Eban stressed, "entirely dispelled the recent impression that might have arisen that Egypt is leaning towards respect for international law in the Suez Canal. He said that Egypt sought the right to wage a unilateral war at sea five years after the Armistice Agreement and two-and-a-half years after the Council had passed its resolution of 1951.

No Basic Change

"The representative of Egypt accused me of repeating my arguments," Mr. Eban stated. "I freely admit the charge of repetition. None of the basic political, economic or moral facts which prevailed at that time has undergone any change in the two-and-a-half years which have ensued.

"These contentions, which were put forward in 1951 and repeated last week, have been substantially upheld by the Security Council."

The Israel delegate said that the Security Council had rejected the concept of active belligerent rights. "The Security Council stated that the Egyptian restrictions cannot be justified on any legitimate grounds of self-preservation," he stated. "The Security Council rejected the concept that the Egyptian invasion of Israel in 1948 has endowed Egypt with certain inalienable rights."

He added that the Armistice Agreement was intended to end hostilities permanently. "This is not an Israel thesis but an authentic and authoritative U.N. interpretation," he pointed out.

The Egyptian representative had contended that the Constantinople Convention of 1888 upholds Egypt's rights of search and confiscation. Mr. Eban replied that he did not wish to discuss the Constantinople Convention. "The Security Council must not look at this case from a standpoint of pre-U.N. law but from a standpoint of its Charter and actions," he said.

Few Ships

He stressed that Egypt was trying to focus attention on a relatively few ships that did not respect the blockade and had become objects of intervention, and then referred to an Egyptian royal decree of February 6, 1950.

"Because of the existence of this decree, much more than 90% of ships which might reach Israel do not attempt to do so," he continued. "The maritime powers disapprove of these regulations but have no means of overcoming the force which lies at the disposal of Egypt. Ninety per cent of the trade which should flow through the Suez Canal has been driven off the Suez highway."

Mr. Eban added that the statistics offered by Egypt "far from proving their own case, merely prove that fewer and fewer ships now feel free to trade with Israel and the effects of the blockade are becoming absolute... Egypt has not in any sense denied that there has been an aggravation of conditions which the Security Council felt deserving of condemnation in 1951."

Mr. Eban pointed out that the territorial waters of at least four countries overlap within the Gulf of Eilat, "so that if any one country asserts sovereign rights, we achieve a maritime jumble, for any one of the four Governments could use force against the shipping and anchorages of the other three."

"What is new is that Egypt doubts the legitimacy of commerce with Israel through the Gulf of Eilat," he said, and asked whether any power could arbitrarily act against international policy and without international consent.

"Israel may not always be the victim or target of such abuses," he declared. "If the Council does permit this precept to become established, then we elevate countries such as Egypt to the colossal power of being able to

(Continued on P.3, Col.5)

Iraq Invents Tale Of Detentions

By The Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Iraq has reacted characteristically to the various forms of international pressure being put upon her to release the three holders of Israel passports held prisoner since their British-owned aeroplane made a forced landing in Baghdad on January 30.

She has now put out a circumstantial story which claims that the Israelis concerned are being kept as hostages for seven Iraqi officers who, she alleges, have been held prisoner by Israel since the War of Liberation.

Israel has officially denied any knowledge of such prisoners, stigmatizing the report as "a malicious fabrication", and Mr. Abba Eban has notified the U.N. Secretary General that Israel holds no such prisoners.

It is curious, to say the least, that the Iraq Government has kept quiet during all the years that have elapsed since 1948 about these alleged seven prisoners and has only raised the issue now that she is indicted in the eyes of the world for her act of savagery, conflicting with civilised usage, in detaining the hapless Israel citizens who had the misfortune to be on a British plane which had to make a forced landing in Iraq.

LIBYA'S FIRST PREMIER QUITS

BENGHASI, Monday. — King Idris I today accepted the resignation of Premier Mohammed al-Muntasir, who has headed the Cabinet since Libyan independence was proclaimed in December 1951.

Mohammed Zagilsi, the Chief Palace Chamberlain, has been asked by the King to form a new Cabinet. *(UP, NBABS)*

Gunman Shoots Member Of Syrian State Council

BEIRUT, Monday (Reuter). — An unknown gunman fired three shots today at Joseph Charbel, a member of the Council of State, the Lebanese tribunal which acts as a Court of Appeal.

Two bullets which hit Charbel were removed at hospital. His life was not believed to be in danger.

Charbel, a former public prosecutor, was responsible in 1949 for the prosecution of members of the left-wing Parti Populaire Syrien.

Twelve were sentenced to death and 200 received prison terms.

U.N. Refugee Chief Notes Arab Misery

GENEVA, Monday (Reuter). — The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. G. J. Van Heuven Goedhart, said here that a recent tour of the Middle East had convinced him anew of the "horrible justification" for the U.N. Refugee Emergency Fund (UNREF).

The Fund has just enough money to continue care and maintenance of some 15,000 European refugees still stranded in Communist China until the end of April. The refugees in China, concentrated in Shanghai, have had priority over all other groups since the end of last year.

The High Commissioner said that refugees in the Middle East constituted a limited problem for his office, compared with the world problem, but there were many needy cases. They are mostly White Russians and others of East European origin, Palestine refugees being outside his mandate.

"Damascus topped the list of miseries which I have been obliged to see in the last few years," he said. "I saw people living in indescribable conditions in imminent danger of their lives from crumbling walls."

The High Commissioner stressed that the Governments of the Middle East countries with big refugee problems of their own could not be blamed for not doing more for the alien refugees who were an international responsibility.

Egypt's Charges 'Raked Up' —'Manchester Guardian'

LONDON, Monday (Reuter). — Recent Egyptian complaints against alleged Israel actions in the demilitarized zone at Auja were "raked up to confuse and complicate the discussion of the Suez blockade," the "Manchester Guardian" declared today.

This Liberal newspaper was commenting in an editorial on the discussions on the blockade which are to be resumed in the Security Council today.

"It was curious that Egypt, in saying that her complaints required urgent action, and in describing what were Israel's offences, did not say when these had taken place," it said. "Actually, they occurred several months ago and have already been dealt with in the Mixed Armistice Commission."

National Guidance Minister Salah Salem announced today that President Mohammed Nagib will visit the Sudan for one week starting on February 28 and attend the opening of the Sudanese Parliament on March 1. Salem said that he will accompany Nagib.

NAGIB CONFERS ON EXPELLED ENVOY

CAIRO, Monday (Reuter). — President Mohammed Nagib conferred yesterday with Col. Mohammed Shafei, Egyptian Military Attache in Ankara, on the dispute between Egypt and Turkey over the expulsion of the former Turkish Ambassador, Hulusi Fuat Tugay, from Egypt.

President Nagib later told reporters that the Egyptian reply to the latest Turkish note on the matter was almost completed and would shortly be sent to Turkey. "Egypt wishes to maintain good relations with all countries," he said.

Closer Indo-Turkish Cooperation Urged

BOMBAY, Monday (Reuter).— Prince Aly Khan emphasized here today the need for greater understanding and closer cooperation between the two "great republics" of India and Turkey.

He was presiding over a reception given by the Ismaili Association of India in honour of Mr. Rahim Mistry, newly appointed Consul for Turkey in Bombay. He said that the appointment by the Turkish Government of an Indian as their Consul was an indication of "growing friendship" between the two countries.

BAN OVERTIME

LONDON, Monday (Reuter). — About 4,000 tugmen joined 7,000 dockers and stevedores in demanding a ban on compulsory overtime at the London Docks today, threatening the port with a gradual seize up.

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(Adv.)

DUBEK 10
RICHER FLAVOUR THROUGH MACEDONIAN TOBACCO

Social & Personal

Mr. H. Van-Dei, head of TWA's Publicity Department, arrived by TWA yesterday for a short visit.

Mr. Bruce McDaniel is to address the Haifa branch of the Israel-American Friendship League at the Zion Hotel, at 5.15 today.

Sprinzak Returns From Paris Conference

LYDDA AIRPORT, Monday (ITIM). — Knesset Speaker Yosef Sprinzak returned by T.W.A. today from a short visit to Paris where he attended the opening of the first meeting of the All-Party French Zionist Federation. An Honour Guard of policemen, drawn up before the aircraft, was inspected by Mr. Sprinzak.

He said that the Conference had served to open the way towards unifying Jewish forces in France, including those already rooted in that country and the new immigrants. The Conference was merely a prologue and must be followed by intensive work on behalf of Israel.

At the Airport, Mr. Sprinzak was greeted on behalf of the President by his military aide, Sgan-Aluf Yosef Carmel; Deputy Speaker Binyamin Mintz; and the Clerk of the Knesset, Mr. M. Rosetta.

Also aboard the plane was Sgan-Aluf M. Hazor, Knesset Sergeant-at-Arms, returning from a private visit to Europe. While in London, he met the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons and Black Rod of the House of Lords, General Sir Brian Horrocks.

Sgan-Aluf Hazor also visited the Parliaments of Holland and France.

Where to go

JERUSALEM
Libraries:—
American Library and Reading Room, U.S. Consulate, Mamilla Rd. Entrance free, 9-1, 3-6.
Archaeology: —
Permanent exhibition and finds from excavation near Ein Gedi. Dept. of Antiquities, 25 Rehov Shlomo Hamelech, 9-1, 4-6.
Exhibitions: —
Modern Mexican Prints (Rivera, Orosco, Siqueiros, etc.). Peruvian ceramics. New Acquisitions: Prints by William Hogarth. Exhibit of the month: "Three Women in a Glade," National Museum Besalel, 9-1, 3-5 p.m.
Exhibition of paintings by Hanna Weiler-Levi and Josef Kosonogi; auspices: The Israel Artists and Sculptors Association, Artists' House, 10-1, 4-6.
Tours: —
Hebrew University conducted tour, new administration building, King George Ave., opposite Terra Sancta, 10 a.m.
Lectures: —
Impressions of visit to Sao Paolo as Director of Israel Exhibition at Brazil Fair. Mr. M. Ardon. Bezalel Museum. 8.30 p.m.
Symposium: —
Situation in the Municipality. Mayor Y. Kariv, Deputy Mayor A. Eliachar, Councillor M. Friedman. Bnai Brith. 8 p.m.
TEL AVIV
Exhibitions:—
100 Years of Dutch Painting. Museum. 10-8 p.m.
Theatres: —
"Pygmalion," Chamber Theatre, Mograbi. 8 p.m.
HAIFA
Lectures: —
Mr. Bruce McDaniel: "Tasks and Accomplishments of TCA Mission in Israel"; Israel-U.S. Friendship League, Haifa Branch; Zion Hotel. 5.15 p.m.
Exhibitions: —
Paintings by Marcel Jancu and copper jewellery by Batia Shaltiel — The "Tractyr" Art Gallery, 4 Rehov Haarwald, opp. Eden Hotel. 10-1, 4-7 p.m.
Opening of an exhibition by Jacob Pins (woodcuts), Jona Mach (oil paintings), Mordehai Gumpel (sculptures). Municipal Museum, Town Hall. 5.30 p.m.
NAHARIYA
Theatre: —
Do-Re-Mi, "Countess Maritza," Operetta. 8.30 p.m.
REHOVOT
Theatre: —
Habimah, "The Living Corpse," 9 p.m.
AFULA
Theatre: —
"The Trouble Makers," Chamber Theatre 8 p.m.
NATANYA
Theatre: —
Habimah, "The Immortal Jew," 9 p.m.

JERUSALEM CINEMAS

At 2, 4.30 & 8.30 p.m.
ARMON: My Cousin Rachel.
EDEN: The Merry Widow.
EDISON: House of Wax.
ORDEL: The Hunted.
ORION: The Thief of Venice.
ORNA: The President's Lady.
STUDIO: The Third Man.
ZION: Untamed Frontier.

THE HEBREW NATIONAL
OPERA
TEL AVIV: HABIMAH
Tonight, Feb. 16, at 8.15 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 8.15 p.m.
HAIFA "ARMON"
Thursday, Feb. 25, at 9 p.m.
TOSCA
Opera in 3 acts by Puccini with
Edith Della Pergola
(as Tosca)
Guest Singer of the STAATSOPER, Vienna.
Tickets: TEL AVIV Bella, 67 Allenby; Kanaf, 69 Allenby; "Bocco," 99 Dizengoff and at the Habimah Box Office.
HAIFA: Ginsburg's Office.

LAW REPORTS

THE JERUSALEM POST
February 16, 1954

In the Supreme Court sitting as High Court of Justice
Before: Justices Olshan (Acting President), Silberg and Berenson.

Moshe Ben Shmuel Arusi, Applicant, v. The Commissioner of Prisons and The Superintendent of the Prison at Shata, Respondents. (HC/24/54).

Order Nisi granted in Habeas Corpus Case

The High Court of Justice granted an order nisi yesterday in a *habeas corpus* application against the Commissioner of Prisons and the Superintendent of the State prison near Beisan, to show cause why they should not release the applicant from unlawful detention.

The applicant, Moshe Ben Shmuel Arusi, aged 33, who appeared on his own behalf, had been convicted on July 17, 1950 of housebreaking, burglary and theft, according to sections 295 (a) and 273 (b) of the Criminal Code Ordinance, 1936, and sentenced to four years in prison. He was released on parole on February 12, 1953, subject to his continuing to be of good behaviour.

Two months later, on April 30, 1953, Arusi was again arrested on a new charge of housebreaking, burglary and theft. Twenty-one days after this arrest, the Magistrate's Court cancelled his parole, on the testimony of the Commissioner of Prisons that he had broken his bond in that he had committed another offence, and ordered him to be returned to prison.

On July 22, 1953 Arusi appeared before Judge Golan in the Jerusalem District Court. He was convicted on two counts of housebreaking, burglary and theft and sentenced to four years in prison on each count, the sentences to run concurrently from April 30, 1953, the day of his arrest. The Judge emphasized that he was imposing heavy sentences because of the accused's criminal record.

Arusi appealed against this conviction and on January 5, 1954, his appeal was allowed on the ground that there was no corroboration of the evidence of the only witness, who was at one and the same time accused of being an accessory. The Court ordered Arusi to be released from prison if he were not being detained for any other offence.

The Commissioner of Prisons refused to release the applicant, presumably for the reason that his parole had been cancelled and that he therefore had to complete the original sentence of four years imposed in 1950.

Applicant's Case

Arusi, who was complimented by Mr. Justice Olshan on his competent handling of his own case, claimed before the High Court of Justice that he was being detained illegally and against the instructions of the Court of Appeal, since he had been cleared of that offence with which he had allegedly broken his parole, and on the strength of which the Magistrate's Court had ordered his reimprisonment.

The applicant claimed further that the Commissioner of Prisons had acted hastily in bringing up the question of his parole before the Magistrate's Court on the mere suspicion of his having committed an offence, without waiting until he was found guilty of that offence.

Decision

The Court granted the application for an order *nisi* and called upon the respondents to reply within ten days.

In Memoriam
YEHUDA EYLATH

It was a rare combination of commercial experience — acquired as a buyer for a large department store concern in Germany —, an innate love of beauty, and a devotion to duty which, in the past, made the office of the civil servant respected and distinguished, that enabled the late Yehuda Eylath to create a unique position within the Government service which his untimely death at 47 now leaves vacant. And it is because of this combination of qualities that it will not be easy to find a successor.

The creation of this office, lately called "Product and Marketing Development," within the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, actually goes back to the year 1938, when Eylath, then Engelbert, reported to a Committee on Crafts and Home Industry, of the Economic Research Institute of the Jewish Agency, on his plans to visit England with a sample collection of Israel crafts, — and again on his return from his visit, on his experiences. On the basis of his report, in 1940 the Jewish Agency opened (within the Department of Commerce and Industry) an office for the promotion of home industries and applied arts, and invited Eylath to become its Manager.

The functions of this office covered a wide field: provision of credits, financial and technical advice, market research and export promotion. A special feature was the arrangement of exhibitions. Apart from participation in exhibitions like the one in Cairo in 1942, Eylath, in cooperation with the Bezalel Museum, initiated the Exhibitions of Applied Art, of which so far three have taken place (1945, 1947, 1952).

With the setting up, at his instance, of the National Council for Industrial Design and Applied Arts in February 1952, a wider "sounding board" was created for realizing part of the programme he envisaged for the Service of Product Development.

In spite of close to 15 years of devoted pioneering service given by Eylath, we are still at the beginning of an uphill task, and it may well take years before the seeds he has sown will bear fruit. While it will be difficult to find a suitable successor for Eylath, it is to be hoped that the Government will try to continue and expand the valuable work which he initiated under most difficult conditions.

E.G.

HEAVY RAIN SAVES NEGEV PASTURE

BEERSHEBA, Monday.—Heavy rain fell here last night and throughout this morning. The amount was 22.5 mm., which brings the total for this season to 187.5 mm. — only 13 mm. short of the average annual total.

Heavy rains in the Eastern Negev today were welcomed by Beduin whose grazing lands were dangerously close to being parched because of the long interval since the last rains.

Rain fell in small quantities yesterday and today as far south as the Egyptian border. Sde Boker recorded three mm.

Heavy rain fell intermittently in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv throughout the day, with bright, sunny intervals.

In Petah Tikva, the heavy rains last night caused flooding at the Hess school and lessons were cancelled in most classes.

TRACTOR TOWN SERVES NEGEV

BEERSHEBA, Monday (ITIM). — A "tractor town" has been established on the "Merhavim Road" opposite Moshav Peduim, to serve the Negev farm areas. Some 20 tractors and a large number of combines are stationed there and serviced for use in the surrounding district.

A second tractor station at Beit Hagedi serves settlements in the Shuval area. At both points the machinery is now being prepared for the harvest season.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

JERUSALEM: Geula, 14 Geula, 4850. Zion, 31 Ussishkin, 5001.
TEL AVIV: Brieman, 56 Allenby, 62362. Kulton, 25 Basel, 26008. Yehuda Halevi, 91 Yehuda Halevi, 8159. Moseson, 59 Ben Yehuda, 22451. Baruch, Hatikva Qr., 67409.
JAFFA: Briut, 6 Rehov 5, 90239.
NAHLAT GANIM: Freshel, 13 Rehov Rashi. NAHLAT YITZHAK: Fisherman, opposite Bedolah factory.
HAIFA: Belfour, 1 Masada, 2289. Hakohav, 28 Wadi Salib. KIRYAT MOTZKIN: Pentagon.

EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

JERUSALEM: Dr. M. Markuse, 8 Strauss, 2498. Dr. M. Schumert, 19 Ben Yehuda, 61474. Dr. E. Pick, 10/191 German Colony, 3490.
TEL AVIV: Dr. Levithal, 3 Mapu, 24562. Dr. M. Shaham, 1 Syrkin, 25842. Dr. N.L. Sacher, 165 Dizengoff, 26383. Dr. A. Romano, 21 Mersi, 66337.
HAIFA: Dr. S. Shilmover, 18 Nordau, 6374. Dr. A. Rosenbaum, 11 Moria, 3916. Dr. L. Sollasi, 106 Jaffa, 6444. Dr. W. Landau, 4 Mahanayim, 6832.

ON THE AIR

JERUSALEM: 467 M.; HAIFA: 240 M.; TEL AVIV: 33.8, 48.9 & 202 M.

FIRST PROGRAMME
NEWS: Hebrew: 7 a.m., 1.30, 6.15, 8.30 & 11.00 p.m. Arabic Programme (including News): 8 a.m., 2.15 & 6.15 p.m.
6.30 a.m. Service. 6.35 Exercise. 6.45 Musical Clock (R). 7.15 Melodies (R). 8.30 Close Down.
12.00 N. "Music of Noon" (R). 12.30 Housewives' Corner. 12.50 Programme for Hospitals. 1.45 Break for Music (R). 3.00 Close Down.
4.00 p.m. Siesta (R). 4.45 Light Music (R). 5.30 Agricultural Programme. 5.50 Language Corner. 6.45 Children's Hour. 7.00 "Great Pianists". 7.35 Sports. 7.45 Noah's Ark. 8.45 Newsreel. 9.00 Kol Yisrael Orchestra. Conductor: George Singer. Soloist: Annette Josi-Brun: Concerto grosso No. 1 (Handel). Aria "Il Re Pastore" (Mozart); Three Songs without Words (Ben-Haim); Two Arias from "The Marriage of Figaro" (Mozart); Symphony No. 102 (Haydn). 10.40 Requests (R). 11.55 Close Down.
SECOND PROGRAMME
490, 220, 188, 48.9 M.
English: News: 1.40 p.m., 10.35 p.m.
4.00 p.m. Music (R). 5.00 Programme for Youngsters. 5.30 Literature Corner. 6.00 Programme for Housewives. 6.15 Close Down.

IMMIGRANTS' HOUR (32.3, 34.9 & 468 M.): French: 6.30 p.m. Ladino: 7.00 p.m. Yiddish: 7.30 p.m.
KOL ZION LAGOLA: (32.5 M.): 11.15 News. 11.25 In the Country. 11.30 Sports Review. 11.45 Songs.
ARMY PROGRAMME: (44.6, 216, 293 & 220 M.): 6.30 Opening. 6.35 "Bow and Arrow." 7.00 Musical Diary. 7.30 Today's Events. 7.35 Light Music (R). 7.45 Noah's Ark. 8.30 News. 8.45 Evening Tunes. 9.15 Dance Music. 10.00 Close Down.
B.B.C. ZIONIST BROADCASTS: (19.43, 24.93, 24.92 & 30.96 M.): 6.30-7.00 p.m. News. "This England...", Science and Technology.

ZOA HOUSE
Saturday, Feb. 20, 8.30 p.m.
CHOPIN EVENING
(Anniversary of the Composer's Birthday)
Frederic Portnoi
Tickets: Z.O.A. House, Schlesinger and Springer, Radio-Union, Curtis, Adria, Bocco.

ELDORADO HAIFA Mt. Carmel
THE LEADING PLACE OF ENTERTAINMENT
in our new floor show
TOTO The wonder monks;
Duo Demsey Master Acrobats
Saturday and Sunday 5 o'clock with special programme for children

US Jewry Distrusts 'Sentimental' Appeal

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Monday. — Reporting on his recent visit to the U.S., Mr. Eliezer Livneh, M.K., said here last night that U.J.A. contributions had declined and would continue to do so. This, he said, was because of a certain mistrust in the part of U.S. Jewry, resulting from the antiquated propaganda used by Israel, based on sentimentality and the heroism of the War of Liberation. Nobody in the U.S. accepted this any more, as they were well informed on the position in Israel by the Press and by visitors.

Addressing a meeting of the Israel-America Friendship League, Mr. Livneh said that he had found in the U.S. a mass movement towards Jewish consciousness, but not towards Zionism.

However, there was a movement towards the Synagogue and the study of Hebrew, and this, he thought, could be used as a means of attracting investments, provided that Israel's economy were liberalized.

Mr. Livneh said that although he had previously opposed the Bond Drive, he now found that it had become a national feature, with Bonds being sold at public and private functions.

He objected, however, to the "Hollywood style" of Bond propaganda and thought that there were far too many administrators.

Tory 'Rebel' Claims Egypt Untrustworthy

LONDON, Monday (UP). — Mr. Patrick Maitland, one of the group of "rebel" Conservative M.P.'s who oppose Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill's current policy towards Egypt, said in a letter to the influential "Observer" today:

"Your comment of last Sunday said that the choice for Britain in the present negotiations with Egypt is between an agreement now on terms designed to maintain a base useful to us in the Canal Zone seven years after our withdrawal, or a withdrawal in two years leaving us with no base at all. This is not defeatism but plain fact. If Egypt accepts arbitration in 1956 under the terms of the 1936 Treaty there is little doubt that the judgment will go in her favour.

"But any arbitration in or after 1956 must relate to the simple question of fact whether or not the Egyptian army, by its own resources, is capable of ensuring the entire security and freedom of navigation in the canal.

"Unless the Egyptian army by that time has its own independent sources of armaments, it cannot be said to be able 'by its own responsibilities' to discharge this responsibility.

"Egypt is in breach of the Suez Canal convention. She is also in breach of a series of other agreements. On the face of it, therefore, there is no reason to expect the present Egyptian Government to carry out the terms of any new agreement."

Commenting on Mr. Maitland's letter, the "Observer" said:

"It would be rash to assume that an impartial international tribunal would judge the Egyptian army, whatever its wartime limitation, incapable of performing its task in the peacetime conditions... to which the 1936 Treaty clearly relates. Nor would it be likely to give such a judgment on the ground that the Egyptian army's own resources must exclude armaments obtained from abroad — a method of supply used by many other sovereign nations, including Britain.

"We did not deny that, in the special instance of her embargo on goods for Israel, Egypt is breaking the Suez Canal convention. But this is a matter for international action, not for handling in the context of the bilateral treaty negotiations."

DIE BRÜCKE גשר
DRAMA READING OF
"Sensations Prozess"
(אדם מספר 15)
4 parts by Eduard Wooll
Sat., Feb. 20, 8.30 p.m.
Bet Habalutsot,
31A King George St., Tel Aviv.
Tickets: Schlesinger & Springer 2 Rehov Nahlat Benyamin; Munchhausen, Tobacconist, 40 Reh. Ben Yehuda; Radio Union, 116 Rehov Dizengoff; and at the Box Office.

AT THE CINEMA

Trite Types in Stale Scenarios

THE scenarios of both American films, "Born to Be Bad" (Migdalor, Tel Aviv) and "Glory Alley" (Esther) are of so primitive a nature that it appears difficult to do justice to the actors' efforts. Joan Fontaine, the lady born to be bad, and her two despairing admirers, Robert Ryan and Zachary Scott seem to be characters drawn from a textbook for film writers.

The people from New Orleans assembled in "Glory Alley" have dynamic names, such as "Socks Barbarossa," the prize fighter, Shadow (trumpeter Louis Armstrong, in fact); Pig, the crook. The plot, however, revolves anything but dynamically about a blinded judge who promotes prize fights, and his lovely daughter, Leslie Caron, dancer in a third-rate "joint" (her dances prove it). Motives as well as utterances are dictated by silly sentimentalities. Mo.

Variation on a Theme

VICKI Baum has two main themes, variants of which appear in her novels again and again: "Grand Hotel," and stage careers. "A Woman's Secret" (Tel-Or, J'lem) is based on Miss Baum's story: "Mortgage for Life." Pianist Luke Jordan (Melvyn Douglas) and Marian, a singer who suddenly loses her voice (Maureen O'Hara) together discover a reluctant young songstress (newcomer Gloria Grahame) and try to help her to go on with the show. Simultaneously this is a whodunit which starts strangely enough with a bullet wounding the young songstress.

Though by no means outstanding, the picture has a certain charm. It is a pleasure to meet superior Melvyn Douglas on the screen again after a long interval. There is an amusing Algiers interlude. Frederic Hollander composed the score, but the theme-song is Manuel Ponce's enchanting "Estrellita."

FRANGO

Wit and Gusto

IN the film version of "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" (Armon, Haifa), the two vague ladies from Little Rock, Lorelei the blonde (Marilyn Monroe) and Miss Shaw the brunette (Jane Russell), emanate from the Broadway musical success rather than directly from Anita Loos' novel. One should not be deterred by the brash publicity which attends this film. The career of Lorelei who believes that "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend," the sketchy outline of the brunette whose cynical exterior covers pure sentimentalism, the misadventures that attend their gold-digging tactics are all portrayed with a mild wit and considerable gusto. Lorelei can wheedle a diamond tiara off the head of a sugar daddy's (Charles Coburn) wife but she can also fight with stubborn tigerishness to retain it; while her soft-hearted friend can loyally risk going to prison in her place. The touch of satire is weakened by the wedding march on which the film ends. Lively work in Technicolor.

H.

Could be Better

PEOPLE used to the Cinquecento as seen by Orson Welles will find the "Thief of Venice" (Orion, J'lem) an exceedingly dull rendition of the colourful history of Venice, shot in the original settings with a panoply of galleys and hallebardiers. What comes out is a poorly photographed, conducted tour of Venice, additionally spoiled by ham-acting and endless sword-play.

"The President's Lady" revives uninterestingly an eventful chapter in the history of the United States. The main theme is a slander campaign against the charming wife (Susan Hayward) of Andrew Jackson, Truman's favourite predecessor. Since we know from the start that there is no truth whatever in the rumours, even some Indian action and other tense moments cannot make this film exciting.

Th.F.M.

Press Review:
Pressure from Bus Firms Can Rebound

Both "Davar" (Histadrut) and "Hamedia" (Agudat Yisrael) deal with the threatened bus strike. The former denounces the cooperatives' use of the threat of strike. If the cooperatives reject the proposal of a compromise with an impartial investigation this would show that they are not convinced of the justice of their own stand. The paper believes that the use of such pressure will bring results which are certainly not desired by the cooperatives.

In a second leader "Davar" protests against the continued detention of three Israel citizens in Baghdad as the result of a forced BOAC landing there. On the day before "Hador" (Mapai) had said that the airline had not done all it could to help its passengers.

"Al Hamishmar" (Mapam) reviews the budget debate in the Government and says that the General Zionists have "again compelled Mapai to retreat."

"Ha'aretz" (Independent) says that one should not overrate the importance of the Prouty-Smith report to Congress on the Middle East situation, but that it does propose a definite policy at a time when professional diplomats demand clear and firm instructions. Referring to the recommendation that assistance to countries which violate international agreements should at once be stopped, the paper believes that the U.S. should follow it with regard to Egypt's Suez policy.

Political Weapon

"Haboker" (General Zionist) also welcomes the report and argues that the Arab governments have a vital interest in the continued suffering of the refugees as a political weapon and as a means of extorting help from outside. The paper thinks a Soviet veto against a Security Council decision denouncing the Egyptian blockade on Suez might eventually do Russia harm in the Straits. "Hatzofe" (World Mizrahi Union) says that though Russia prefers at the present time to play the Arab card, it is not known whether Mr. Vishinsky will use his veto, and the danger of an adverse decision in the Security Council has caused much concern in Cairo. The paper also welcomes the Prouty-Smith report and feels that it displays for the first time a realistic attitude towards the problems of the area.

"Herut" opposes the idea of an Israel-Jordan meeting because such a conference may well lead toward the return of refugees to Israel and have generally speaking results detrimental to this country. "Zmanim" (Progressive) also says that the report is distinguished by political realism, objectivity and the large amount of factual material contained therein.

An editorial in Kol Ha'am" (Communist) demands that the people in Israel should unite in the fight against the rebirth of German militarism, thus also criticizing implicitly Mr. Molotov's plan for an independent Germany with its own army.

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First Municipal Budget Passed

RAMAT GAN, Monday. — The first municipal budget (1954-55) was passed unanimously by the Givatayim Council last Thursday.

The IL.1,380,000 budget is 40% larger than that of last year and contains an allocation of over IL.500,000 for education, with IL.314,000 for development, and over IL.100,000 for new roads and tree planting.

The three General Zionist Councillors, who are in opposition to the Labour-controlled Council, voted for the budget since their requests were met.

The same Council meeting approved an efficiency report drawn up by a committee of five Givatayim residents. The report combines the Collection Department with the Accounting Department; centralises all municipal stores and increases the number of workers in the Sanitation Department.

Dope Pedlar — Aged 10

TEL AVIV, Monday (ITIM). — A 10-year-old boy who served as runner between his parents and dope smugglers was arrested after a chase through the narrow lanes of the Hatikva Quarter here last week. When caught, he was found in possession of a quantity of hashish. His parents were arrested later.

Sworn Declaration

I, the undersigned, BERMAN SHLOMO, hereby declare that I have not been converted to Christianity, and that at no time have I thought of abandoning the Jewish faith.

Whatever has been said about me in this respect is utterly without foundation.

sgd. BERMAN SHLOMO

February 2, 1954.

Today, February 2, 1954, appeared before the District Court, Tel Aviv, Mr. BERMAN SHLOMO, and was lawfully sworn-in, that the above declaration is the truth and nothing but the truth.

District Court, Tel Aviv.

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as well as a
Huge Programme also on Friday Evening for Oneg - Shabbat and Sat., 5 o'Clock Tea
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Zatopek Heads IAAF Honours List

LONDON, (UP). — Thirty-eight world records have been officially certified by the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

Top honours in the awards went to Emil Zatopek of Czechoslovakia, who was credited with three new world distance-running standards. The sturdy, 31-year-old Czech set marks for six miles (28 minutes 8.4 seconds), for 10,000 metres (29 minutes 1.6 seconds) and 30,000 metres (1 hour, 35 minutes 23.8 seconds).

Eight United States track and field performances, including 880-yard and 1,000-metre feats by Mal Whitfield were listed. The other Americans whose achievements were recognized as world standards were Parry O'Brien, Fortune Gordien, Sim Iness and Walt Davis.

Whitfield's records were 1:48.8 for 880 yards in an exhibition at Turku, Finland, last July 17, and 2:20.8 for 1,000 metres at Eskilstuna, Sweden, Aug. 16.

O'Brien and Gordien each were credited with two world record performances in shot-putting and discus throwing, respectively, but in each case the second feat bettered the previous one as a new mark.

Pirie in Twice

Great Britain's Gordon Pirie was listed twice — for his six mile time and as a member of the star 4x1500m. relay team.

Russia received recognition for two men's events and nine — of twelve — women's.

The complete list of records certified.

MEN

800 Yards — Mal Whitfield, United States, 1 minute 48.8 seconds, July 17, 1953, at Turku, Finland.
Six Miles — Gordon Pirie, Great Britain, 29:10.4, July 10, 1953, at London.
Six Miles — Emil Zatopek, Czechoslovakia, 28:08.4, Nov. 1, 1953, at Stara Boleslav, Czechoslovakia.
1,000 Meters — S. Jungwirth, Czechoslovakia, 2:21.2, Oct. 27, 1952, at Stara Boles'av.
1,000 Meters — Whitfield, 2:20.8, Aug. 16, 1953, at Eskilstuna, Sweden.
1,500 Meters — Werner Lueg, Germany, 3:43, June 28, 1932, at Berlin.
10,000 Meters — Zatopek, 29:01.6, Nov. 1, 1953, at Stara Boleslav.
30,000 Meters — Zatopek, 1:35.23.8, Oct. 26, 1952, at Stara Boleslav.
4 x 800 Meter Relay — Usle, Czechoslovakia (D. Cihal, A. Sirsinck, L. Lolka, S. Jungwirth), 7:29, July 26, 1953, at Stara Boleslav.
4 x 1,500 Meter Relay — Hungarian National Team (S. Garay, Z. Beres, I. Rozsavolgyi, S. Iharosi, 15:23.2, Sept. 23, 1953, at Budapest.
4 x 1,500 Meter Relay — Great Britain and Northern Ireland (R. Dunkley, D. Law, Gordon Pirie, Bill Nakeville), 15:27.2, Sept. 23, 1953, at London.
400-Meter Hurdles — J. Lituyev, Russia, 0:50.4, Sept. 20, 1953, at Budapest.
Hop, Step, Jump — L. Scherbakov, Russia, 53 feet 2¾ inches (16 meters 23 centimeters), July 19 1953, at Moscow.
Shot-Put — Parry O'Brien, United States, 18 meters, May 9, 1953, at Fresno, Calif.
Shot-Put — O'Brien, 18.4 meters, (60 feet 2¾ inches), June 5, 1953, at Compton, Calif.
Discus — Sim Iness, United States, 57.92 meters, June 20, 1953, at Lincoln, Neb.
Discus — Fortune Gordien, United States, 57.10 meters, July 11, 1953, at Pasadena, Calif.
Discus — Gordien, United States, 59.32 meters (194 feet 6 inches), Aug. 22, 1953, at Pasadena.
High Jump — Walt Davis, United States, 2.12 meters (6 feet 11 inches), June 27, 1953, at Dayton, Ohio.
20-Mile Walk — J. Ljunggren, Sweden, 2:39:22.8, Aug. 8, 1952, at Varnamo, Sweden.
50-Mile Walk — Ljunggren, 4:31:11, Aug. 8, 1953, at Frisiad, Sweden.
20,000-Meter Walk — J. Dolezal, Czechoslovakia, 1:30:26.4, Nov. 1, 1953, at Stara Boleslav.
30,000-Meter Walk — Ljunggren, 2:27:42, Aug. 3, 1952, at Varnamo, Sweden.
30,000-Meter Walk — Dolezal, 2:21:36.8, October, 1952, at Prague.
50,000-Meter Walk — Ljunggren, 4:29:38, Aug. 8, 1953, at Frisiad.

Two-Hour Walk — Dolezal, 29,262 meters (18 miles, 1,390 yards 1 foot), Oct. 12, 1952, at Prague.

WOMEN

100 Meters — Marjorie Jackson, Australia, 0:11.4, Oct. 10, 1952, at Gifu, Japan.
800 Meters — N. Otkalenko, Russia, 2:07.3, Aug. 27, 1953, at Moscow.
3 x 880-Yard Relay — Great Britain and Northern Ireland (M. Gandley, D. Leather, M. Blenkon), 0:48, Aug. 3, 1953, at London.
4 x 220-Yard Relay — Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A. Pashley, J. Newbould, S. Hampton, A. Johnson), 1:39.9 Sept. 30, 1953, at London.
4 x 100-Meter Relay — Russian National Team (V. Kalashnikova, Z. Sofronova, N. Dvalishvili-Halkina, L. Turnova), 0:43.8, Oct. 20, 1953, at Budapest.
4 x 200-Meter Relay — Russian National Team (F. Calajnicova, V. Kasantova, Z. Sofronova, N. Dvalijvili-Halkina), 1:38.4, Aug. 9, 1953, at Bucharest, Rumania.
3 x 800-Meter Relay — Russian National Team (N. Chesnokokova, D. D. Barabovich, N. Otkalenko-Pletneva), 6:39.2, Sept. 19, 1952, at Budapest.
Shot-Put — G. Zybina, Russia, 5.37 meters, Sept. 20, 1952, at Frunze, Russia.
Shot-Put — G. Zybina, 15.42 meters, Oct. 1, 1952, at Frunze.
Shot-put — G. Zybina, 15.59 meters, Oct. 6, 1952, at Malmo, Sweden.
Discus — N. Romashkova, Russia, 53.31 meters, Oct. 9, 1952, Odessa, Russia.
Discus — N. Dumbadze, Russia, 57.4 meters, Oct. 18, 1952 Tbilisi, Russia.

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FEB. 15.	Rise or Fall
Govt. Loans	
4% 1955 (reg.) 101	+¼
3½ 1956 (reg.) 100	—1(c)
7½ 1959 (reg.) 100½	+½
Pop. Loans	
1949/49 (IL.20) 109	—
1950/75 (IL.10) 98½	+½
4½% Tavel Dollar 1432x	+10(c)
4½% Tavel Dollar 1445x	+8
4½% War Loan 54/69 90	—
3½% Govt. Bonds large 90	—
Pal. Bearer Bd.	
Ser. 1 720	+½
Ser. 2 720	—
Ser. 3 730	—
B. Leumi Ord. sh 215	+3
A.P.B. Invest.	
4% Debs. 50/70 97½	—2(c)
4½% Pref. sh. 100½	—
Ord. sh. "B" 122	—
Gen. Mortg. Bk	
4% Debs 48/63 77½	—
6% Pref. sh. 77½	—
Hozur	
4% Debs. 46/58 93½	—
4½% Debs. 53/66 reg. 76½	—
Nir Ltd.	
4% Debs. 39/59 83	—
9% Pref. sh. 70½	—
Yam Debs. 4% 42/52 73	—
P.L.D.C. Ord. sh. 181½	—3
4% Debs 93	—
Afr Pal. Inv. Ord. sh. 131	—
Bassco	
4% Debs 56/63 70½	—
9% Pref Ord. sh. 97	—
Pal. Potash 6% Pref. sh 434	—
— "A" ord. sh. 232	—3
Pal. Elec. Ord sh. (Ier.) 481	+3
Mekoroth Pref. sh. 81½	+½
Ata 6% "C" Pref.sh 113	—
Ord. "B" sh. 155	—1½
Ord. "C" sh. 154½	—1½
6-8% Con. Debs. 106½	+½
"Kardaneh" Ord "B" sh 167	—1
Ord. "C" sh. 166½	—1
7% Conv. Debs. 58/68 116	—
Assis-Rej. "B" sh 171	—1
"Teva" Ord. sh. 101½	—1½
Nesher 6% Debs. Ser. A 132	—
6% Debs. Ser. B 150	+1
Pal. Gold St. 7% Debs. 139½	—
Ledata 4½% Pref.sh. 79½	+½
S.A. Binyan Ord.sh 83	—5)
Pal. Centr. Tr. pref. sh 91½	—4)

Notes: a) purchasing price; b) selling price; c) ex-coupons; d) ex-right; x) pruteh per one Dollar.

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Today's Post Bag

THE WEATHER

	°A	B	C	°D
Mt. Canaan	85	4	11	14
Tiberias	80	10	17	18
Haifa Port	98	10	17	18
Natanya	89	9	16	17
Tel Aviv North	74	9	15	16
Tel Aviv Port	75	11	16	17
Lydda Airport	70	8	17	19
Jerusalem	68	5	9	13
Beersheba	68	9	14	17
Eilat	60	13	30	22

FORECAST: Scattered light showers early in the morning, becoming partly cloudy to fair.
°A) Humidity at 8 a.m. B) Minimum temp. C) Maxim. yesterday. D) Maximum temp. expected today

* * *

53 IMMIGRANTS from India, including 10 children, arrived yesterday by El Al. Seven of the arrivals formerly had lived in Israel but had returned to India.

* * *

THE PREMIERE of the Matate Theatre's 25th anniversary production "You're Telling Me" took place in Tiberias last night. The premiere was held there on the personal request of the director, Mr. Menahem Golan, a native of the town.

* * *

THE GOVERNMENT has allotted IL.200,000 this year for 2,400 secondary school scholarships.

* * *

DOZENS OF UNEMPLOYED burst into the meeting hall of the Hadera Municipal Council last night to demand work. The police were summoned and dispersed the intruders.

* * *

UNEMPLOYED persons smashed the furniture in the South Tirat Hacarmel Labour Exchange yesterday. An attempt to break into the Haifa Exchange was foiled by the police.

* * *

THE LABOUR Exchange Centre decided on Friday to dismiss Mr. S. Levi, Secretary of the Zichron Ya'acov Labour Exchange from 1949 until his suspension in 1952, for "irregular practices." The centre found that no personal gain accrued to the persons involved.

* * *

A CENTRAL CULTURAL COMMITTEE to deal with cultural affairs in Negev settlements was established in Beersheba yesterday by the Negev Authority.

* * *

THE ISRAEL TOURIST and Travel Association, at a general meeting last week, elected a management consisting of Messrs. M. Spitz, D. Melamed, S. Scherf, A. Abrahamoff, S. Korolik, I. Belt-Eli, I. Diesenhaus, K. Nathan, Y. Leon, R. Eisenbach, M. Malchi, I. Vasitch.

* * *

UNCLAIMED GOODS found in the Petah Tikva area will be sold by public auction at the Petah Tikva police station at 9 o'clock this morning.

Child Wife Hidden For Four Years

By SYD APPLERAUM
Jerusalem Post Reporter

"Of course I miss my wife," Shuk'r Ben Yahya Shuk'r, of Hartuv, said yesterday, in reply to my question.

Shuk'r, who is 18, was referring to 12-year-old Zahara, whom he married five years ago in Yemen.

The story came to light yesterday, when I caught snatches of a conversation between Shuk'r, aided by two relatives, and an official at the Recruiting Office in Jerusalem.

Later, Shuk'r told me that he came here by plane about six months ago. While working in the tree nurseries in Eshta'ol, he eagerly awaited the arrival of his child wife.

He explained that, according to Yemenite law, an orphan, as his wife is, can be forced to marry anyone the Government chooses, "even a non-Jew". Accordingly, at the age of seven, Zahara was married to him, and lived in his parents' home.

For two years, prior to Shuk'r's journey to Israel, they lived as man and wife.

Finally, the day came when Zahara was to arrive to join her husband. Shuk'r took the day off from work and waited at Lydda Airport.

But the Rabbinate and the Jewish Agency had other plans for Zahara. Shuk'r was not allowed to see her, although his brother was. She was whisked away, to an institution of some sort, Shuk'r thinks, but the exact location is a secret — at least to him.

He said he has been promised his wife back in four years' time. "I'm going mad without her," he said, bewildered.

Agency May Drop Entry Standard

Proposals to lower requirements for assisted immigration were presented by Rabbi S. Z. Shragai, head of the Jewish Agency's Immigration Department, to a meeting of the Agency Executive in Jerusalem yesterday.

Mr. E. Dobkin reported on the first results of the drive to achieve greater economies in different branches of the Agency.

HAIFA VOTES IL.11M. BUDGET

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA, Monday. — Haifa's IL.11,392,000 budget for the 1954/55 fiscal year was passed by the Town Council this evening, Mapai, Mapam and the Religious Councillors voted for the budget. The General Zionists, Progressives and Communist Councillors opposed it.

The gap of IL.900,000 between revenue and expenditure in the original budget proposal was closed in three ways. The estimated revenue column was enlarged by IL.300,000 to be covered by Government support to various services; a provision to cut expenditure by IL.300,000 was written into the new budget with the nature of the cut yet to be decided, and repayment of loans will be postponed to reduce expenditure by another IL.317,000.

The Council also decided that no Municipal rates or taxes would be raised during the next year, except the property tax on empty building lots. This would be increased from two and a half to three per cent. However, the total income from taxes may be greater because of a new system of assessment.

Mayor Abba Khoushy praised the manner in which the Councillors had handled the debate. He hoped that greater efficiency would bring about more savings and that they could be effected on services without reductions in the services themselves. He also called for volunteers to help the town's needy, in order to remove some of the burden from the social aid department. He suggested that 1,000 well-to-do families "adopt" 1,000 poor families and undertake to care for them.

Deputy-Mayor Nussbaum said that the business tax was a good source of income; furthermore, it helped close the loop-hole in income tax collections. General Zionist Councillors declared that they had voted against the budget because it "was not balanced." An increase of IL.2m. over last year's budget was bound to bring a rise in taxes.

The Progressive Councillor praised the town's financial management, but stated that he could not vote for the estimates as they were still unbalanced. The proposed IL.300,000 reduction has not yet been formulated, he noted.

Jerusalemites Pay Rates in a Rush

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The combined collection of rates and business tax from Jerusalem residents has almost trebled and payments to the Water Department have more than doubled, since Mr. Y. Schreibaum, the Rates' Commissioner, launched a drive to step up income.

Figures for the last three months, issued by the Municipality yesterday, show that the average daily revenue from property rates was on the down grade until January 24, when intensified methods were adopted. Rates receipts then jumped from IL.2,577 daily to IL.5,999. Last week, an average of IL.7,317 was paid in each day.

Payment of the business tax rose from IL.835, the daily average in January, to IL.1,563 last week. As notices to those owing business tax have now been despatched, a squad of collectors and police empowered to confiscate goods from debtors will start operations within the next few days. Fifteen days' grace is allowed after receipt of the notice.

The number of Council sub-committees has been reduced from 21 to 13, following a proposal by the Mayor.

The cut was effected by merging related sub-committees such as personnel and grading, health and trade licensing. The committee for immigrant absorption, which has never met, has been combined with the economic committee.

Two Marauders Stand Trial for Spying

BEERSHEBA, Monday. — The military trial of two Jordanians who face heavy sentences on charges of spying, membership in an armed band and illegally carrying arms, opened here today.

The two, Tewfik Muhamed Abdul Aziz Karadje, 23, and Muhamed Abas Abu Sa'ad Rageb Tmimi, 40, were caught by an armed patrol and found to be in possession of five cartridges and a sten gun. Two other Jordanians who were with them, armed with sub-machine guns, managed to escape across the border.

The accused have confessed to membership in an armed band and the possession of arms, but have denied the espionage charge.

The hearings will continue tomorrow *in camera*.

300,000 Citrus Cases Clog Port

Jerusalem Post Staff

HAIFA, Monday.—Citrus fruit continued to arrive in the Port today, and nearly 300,000 cases have now accumulated. Tomorrow, the s.s. Ragen Hilton is expected to arrive here from Jaffa, where the seas are too rough for loading. She will take 17,000 cases.

Loading on the s.s. Sunnanland has been badly slowed down because the type of fruit she was to take was unavailable among the 300,000 cases in the port. Today, the ship had only 37,000 additional cases to load, which could have been completed by this evening.

Now, the ship must remain in port until tomorrow afternoon, taking up a valuable berth along the main quay and wasting much working time.

Port circles claimed that this was an example of the lack of coordination between the outside groups concerned with citrus export, who are trying to lay the blame on the Port.

The Citrus Marketing Board said in Tel Aviv today that the only reason for the accumulation of citrus crates in the ports was the slow rate of loading ships due to rains.

Each time it rains in Haifa ships' holds have to be closed and then reopened again, which takes at least an hour.

> By February 14, citrus exports this season had totalled 2,910,256 cases. By last year this time, 2,732,949 cases had been exported.

Private Builders Hit 'Popular Housing'

TEL AVIV, Monday. — The Federation of Building Contractors' Associations, representing the private branch of the industry, issued a protest last night against the Government embarking on the second phase of the Popular Housing scheme without cooperation with them.

They claim that the private contractors could provide the same housing as the building companies used in the first phase by the Ministry of Labour, and at the same price. In addition, whereas the Government has to offer a IL.2,800 mortgage on each flat, they could also provide credits, thus reducing Government participation to IL.2,000 per flat, thereby saving the Treasury IL.12m. on the whole project.

The Association suggested that Government housing be executed by tender.

Sharett Clarifies Women's Service Law

In a message to Chief Rabbi I.H. Herzog regarding the National Service for Women Law, the Prime Minister listed several points which would guide the National Service Committee.

Each girl will be permitted to specify the trade or field of work in which she wishes to serve. Wherever possible, these requests will be granted, Mr. Sharett said. Those girls who choose to serve in agriculture will be sent only to Orthodox farms and institutions. No girl not in agricultural service will be required to live or to spend the night away from home.

The Prime Minister emphasized that "only those girls will be required to serve who ordinarily work outside their homes."

Perrot Starts Dig At Chalcolithic Village

BEERSHEBA, Monday. — M. Jean Perrot, head of the French archaeological mission in Israel, today started excavations in a Chalcolithic period village which he recently discovered near here.

The excavations will last for about two months, during which the archaeologist plans to exploit the 1,000 working days allotted him by the Ministry of Labour.

Prof. Nelson Glueck, President of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, is expected to arrive in May or June to undertake the excavation of Tel Beersheba, about three kilometres from town, which is believed to be the place where Abraham lived.

Taxi Firm Could Cut Interurban Fares

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Monday. — Managers of the Atid interurban taxi company today told a Press conference that they could operate a regular service to Jerusalem at the reduced fare of IL.1.250 each way on a sound commercial basis. The company originally planned to maintain the same fare for the Haifa route throughout the slack winter season while introducing an inermediary rate before returning to the regular IL.1.700 fare later.

The standard fare to Jerusalem is now IL.1.400, with IL.2.600 for a two-way trip. These fares, and the regular IL.1.700 Haifa fare, are now charged by Atid, which succumbed to pressure by other taxi companies after reducing its prices last week to a unified IL.1.250 tariff on each route.

Atid is now engaged in arbitration proceedings with other taxi companies under an agreement that the *status quo* will be maintained for one month. The next arbitration meeting is due on Sunday.

Rivals Hire "Thugs"

Were it not for the "strong-arm policy" of rival companies, Atid would have retained its reduced fares, the management stated today, charging their competitors with hiring "thugs" who picketed Atid offices throughout the country last Wednesday.

The management claimed that it was notified by the police of the nature of the men who composed the pickets and that it was indirectly approached to hire the same men and other groups for "protection".

Interurban taxi fares are not controlled, but there is a "gentlemen's agreement" with the Government regarding maximum fares, the Atid managers said, and there is no question as to the legality of reducing fares.

Atid operates 60 taxis, or about a quarter of the total number in the service of interurban companies.

PATROL ATTACKED

One of two armed Jordanians who had penetrated Israel territory north of Tulkarm on Sunday was wounded by an Israel patrol, the Army spokesman announced.

The patrol sighted the pair at 9 a.m., and opened fire. Intense rifle and machinegun fire was then opened from across the border.

In the ensuing exchange, one of the two Jordanians on Israel territory was wounded. He was dragged across the frontier by a group of armed Jordanians which had invaded Israel territory under cover of fire.

A sharp complaint was submitted to the M.A.C. on the Jordan violation. Jordan has submitted a counter-complaint, the Army spokesman said.

The M.A.C. met yesterday morning in emergency session to discuss the incident and decided to conduct an on-the-spot investigation in the afternoon.

Haganah Men Meet On Settlement Defence

TIBERIAS, Monday. — Defence problems in border settlements and the need for instruction were debated at the district convention of Haganah veterans here today.

Mr. N. Ziv-Av, director of the Haganah Veterans Organization, said that there was still need of a volunteer organization such as the Haganah had been.

Diamond Inquiry Awaits US Report

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Monday. — The police investigation of a suspected ring of diamond smugglers which opened after the arrest of Ruth Hacohen in New York last Thursday for the attempted smuggling of over $100,000 worth of diamonds, was temporarily bogged down today.

Awaiting further reports from the U.S. and unable to learn anything new from members of Ruth Hacohen's family who by now have all been thoroughly investigated, police are still unable to say whether the diamonds originated here and whether they were cut or not. Only cut diamonds ordinarily would be smuggled from Israel.

The investigation so far has clarified the method adopted by Ruth Hacohen to obtain the necessary papers to leave the country. She used the passport of her twin sister, Esther Katz, posing as Esther to procure visas. In the process of obtaining American, English and French visas, she used Esther's name on good behaviour and travel permit documents but had her own photograph affixed to them and impressed her own finger prints.

The twins' father, Rabbi Yehiel Cohen, today was released from custody on IL.5,000 bond in consideration of his age, on condition that he is not to leave the country without police permission.

Avraham Cohen, the twins' brother, who works for a diamond firm, and Shmuel Hacohen, Ruth's husband, will be remanded in custody tomorrow if the police deem it necessary.

Esther Katz is in her sister's home here under bond, and her husband, Hanaya, the former El Al employee who gave his wife's free ticket to his sister-in-law, is being held in custody.

RATION NEWS

JERUSALEM: Poultry for invalids: 750 gr. on coupons dated 7/2 and 14/2; for elderly persons: 500 gr., Meat: Hak 13, tem. 6; for expectant mothers: 1,000 gr. on coupons 3, 4 from special books; for children: 250 gr. on Aleph, Bet, Gimel cards, coupon 26/1.

HAIFA AND SAMARIA: Margarine: 425 gr., 9/1, temp. 8. Imported butter: 400 gr., 1/1, temp. 8/1; for invalids: 125 gr. on each of the following coupons. Het Gimel 5, 6, 8, 9 and Het Bet 5, 6, 7, 8 and Het Aleph 1, 2, 3. Rice: 250 gr., Aleph cards and 250 gr. on Bet cards, coupon 3/1, temp. 21. Flour: 750 gr., 6/1, temp. 14. Sweetened cocoa: 125 gr., on Aleph, Bet cards, temp. 16. Eggs for invalids: 4 on Het Aleph 2 cards, 3 on Het Bet 7 cards and 8 on Het Gimel 8 cards; for expectant mothers: 8, coupons 15, 16 from old books or 21, 22 from new. Poultry for invalids: 500 gr., Het 2/6 and Het Bet 7; for elderly persons 250 gr., Meat: Het 6,

Ramat Gan Doctors Win 26-Day Strike

RAMAT GAN, Monday. — The 26-day strike of Municipal doctors ended here today when the Municipality agreed to pay higher salaries retroactive to January, 1953.

The doctors had struck to back their demand that their pay be equal to that of physicians in other public institutions.

It was agreed that the retroactive increases be paid within six months.

21 Hurt When Bus Loses Wheel

TEL AVIV, Monday (ITIM). — Twenty-one passengers were injured, two seriously, when an Egged bus on its way here from Lydda Airport crashed into a fence after its right-hand front wheel broke off its axle this morning.

The more seriously injured persons: Mr. Shmuel Shardash, of Sdot Beth ha'Arava and Mr. Mordechai Pansal, of Kfar Tenne, were kept at the Tel Hashomer Hospital while the other wounded were sent home after treatment. Among those slightly injured was the driver, Mr. Haim Karush.

The accident occurred near the Lydda-Beit Dagon-Tel Aviv crossing. When the wheel came adrift, the driver lost control and the bus careened into a fence at the side of the road. The vehicle was severely damaged.

Police are investigating the cause of the breakage.

34 Drivers Fined For 'Blinding'

HAIFA, Monday. — Traffic police here detained 34 drivers last night and charged them with "blinding" other drivers.

All were fined IL.30 with the alternative of one month in prison by Magistrate Y. Levin. Detention orders were issued against offenders who failed to appear in court.

The Magistrate, who agreed to try the accused immediately, said that he considered "blinding" a very serious offence and would be more strict with future offenders.

DIES AGED 115

MIGDAL ASCALON, Monday (ITIM). — A woman reported to be 115 years old died here today. She was Eisha Chachla, who leaves a large family settled in many parts of the country. Mrs. Chachla came here from Iraq.

EBAN

(Continued from Page 1)

decide which countries shall and which shall not have one of the unconditional rights inherent in national sovereignty."

In conclusion he expressed the hope that the Security Council will see beyond the regional significance into the great international issues which are at stake.

Earlier, Major-General Abdul Hamid Ghalef, of the Egyptian U.N. delegation, declared that the Israel complaint "lacks seriousness."

He claimed that a state of war gives the belligerents certain rights, and he cited rules of international law allegedly supporting the right of Egypt to search ships and confiscate "contraband" destined for Israel. "Nowhere in the U.N. Charter could provision be found to modify these rules," he said.

The Egyptian delegate questioned whether the Egyptian-Israel Armistice Agreement put an end to the legal state of war between the two countries.

He refuted the claim that the Constantinople Convention of 1888 deprived Egypt of the rights of visit, search and confiscation "of war contraband" passing in her territory through the Suez Canal. He insisted that despite the blockade Israel is accelerating the tempo of its "aggression and Zionist expansion."

He concluded by appealing to the Security Council "not to pass judgment on the rights of sovereign Governments exercised within the scope of their jurisdiction and in conformity with international law."

Mr. Eban was followed by Lebanese delegate Edward Rizk and the Egyptian delegate, speaking for the second time. Both supported the Egyptian contentions.

The Turkish delegate, Mr. Selim Sarper, moved for an adjournment until Wednesday. The motion was unanimously adopted. *(UP, INA)*

Independence Day: May 6

By SRAYA SHAPIRO,
Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

A Bill fixing the Independence Day celebration for the Thursday preceding the actual date if it falls on a Friday or Saturday, was tabled by the Prime Minister in the Knesset yesterday. The Bill was referred to committee. Mr. I. Harari (Progressive) had urged that the Bill be returned to the Cabinet, since a national holiday ought not to be "shuttled about."

(This year, Independence Day, Iyar 5, falls on Saturday May 8 and will, according to the Bill, be celebrated on May 6.)

More than two years ago the Knesset amended the Law to read that whenever Independence Day falls on Saturday, it will be celebrated the following Sunday. But, Mr. Sharett said, it was feared that the Army would not be able to avoid violating the Sabbath if the forces were to prepare for the annual parade on Sunday. Army GHQ had suggested advancing the celebration. In 28 years from now, Mr. Sharett stated, Independence Day will fall on a Sunday. "Let us leave the trouble of solving this problem to the next generation," he added.

Barring Criminals

Winding up the debate, held a fortnight ago, on the amendment to the Law of the Return barring known criminals from this country, Mr. I. Rokach, the Minister of Interior, deplored the exaggerated current Press reports on graft and corruption. "The Press should have some consideration for the vast majority of hard-working, creative elements of the population. There is no need to paint a lugubrious picture every afternoon that everything is bad, faulty and corrupt," Mr. Rokach said. The amendment was passed to the Legal Committee, against the opposition of only the Communists.

Mr. I. S. Rosenberg, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, introduced an amendment to the Law on the Administration of Public Institutions, giving the authorities the legal power to remove able-bodied inmates from charitable, educational or medical institutions if a reasonable alternative dwelling could be provided for them. Because of a flaw in the text, the Courts, Mr. Rosenberg stated, have been interpreting the existing regulations as applicable only to aged or mentally defective persons—obviously not what the legislator intended. The amendment was necessary since in some cases patients who had regained their physical or mental faculties, had refused to move out of the institution where they had been treated. The Bill was passed to the Services Committee.

Empty Agenda

No evening sitting was held as there were no items on the agenda.

The Abolition of the Death Penalty for Murder Bill will be discussed by the Knesset today. The Bill, amending the Criminal Code, stipulates that the Courts will impose life imprisonment only on an accused found guilty of murder. Capital punishment will be reserved for criminals found guilty of helping Nazis. All death sentences passed before the new law comes into force will be commuted to life imprisonment.

Party discipline will not be imposed for the vote.

Churchill Believed Up For Nobel Peace Prize

OSLO, Monday (UP). — British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill may fulfil one of his last great ambitions this year by winning the Nobel Prize for Peace and becoming the first man in history to win two of the coveted Nobel awards, informed sources said today.

There was no definite confirmation that the 79-year-old Prime Minister had been nominated, but there was reason to believe that he had been. Nominations closed on January 31. Last year, he won the Nobel Prize for Literature.

'Americans Would Panic If A-Bombs Were Dropped'—Philip Wylie

NEW YORK, Monday (Reuter). — Mr. Philip Wylie, Government consultant on civil defence, said here today he believed the American people, in their present state of mind, would panic if atomic bombs were dropped on the U.S.

But he believed the Russians would panic too in an atomic war.

Mr. Wylie, a novelist attached to the Federal Civil Defence Administration as a consultant, said this in an article published in the February issue of the unofficial bulletin of atomic scientists.

He said his conclusions were based on two factors.

"First, our public is already exhibiting on a massive scale a vast variety of "symptoms" which in clinical psychology are known of deeply repressed fear.

"Secondly, the psychological effects of atomic attack even on persons not already afflicted with hysteria would be greater and more damaging even than the awesome physical and material effects."

Mr. Wylie cited as repressed fear symptoms the means some people employed to fight Communism.

That means many of these people — even including some Congressmen — violate the philosophy of freedom itself and thus greatly weaken our spiritual defences against Communism, he declared.

He said that the psychological vulnerability of the American people had even been openly discussed in "Red Fleet," an official Soviet naval journal.

Cables in Brief

LINDBERGH. — President Eisenhower today nominated Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, who made aviation history by flying the Atlantic to Paris alone in 1927, for promotion to Brigadier General in the Air Force Reserve.

FIRST. — Queen Elizabeth yesterday became the first reigning monarch to open the Australian Parliament.

EXTRADITION. — Russia has demanded the extradition from Iran of a 30-year-old Soviet truck driver who killed a mother and a child in an auto accident in a border town and fled to Iran to escape punishment, the newspaper "Post Teheran" said yesterday. The report could not be confirmed officially.

REJECTED. — Correspondence published yesterday reveals that a membership application from Mrs. Irene Joliot-Curie, French Nobel Prize physicist, had been rejected by the American Atomical Society. The admissions committee of the society expressed its belief that she was a Communist.

RICE. — The Indian Government has begun a scheme to study the effect of synthetic rice manufactured from tapioca and groundnut flour on people in parts of Mysore State.

DIED. — Paul Dinichert, Swiss diplomat who was President of the Red Cross conference which drew up the 1929 Geneva convention for the relief of sick and wounded in war, died here yesterday at the age of 75.

Sabotage Aboard UK Carrier

LONDON, Monday (Reuter). — Naval correspondents aboard Britain's largest aircraft carrier —the 36,000-ton Eagle—reported fresh malicious damage to the ship from Gibraltar today. Most serious was the dumping overboard of electronic equipment controlling the Eagle's guns.

The "Daily Express" correspondent said that it was "done deliberately by malcontents among the ship's 2,400 crew." He added that "officers are deeply concerned, for living conditions aboard have a bad effect on the ship's efficiency."

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COST ACCOUNTING COURSE

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On termination of the course, the Institute will provide occupations to the graduates in industrial enterprises interested in Cost Accounting methods.

Candidates are requested to apply to the Institute not later than Friday, Feb. 19, 1954.

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is starting to compile reasonably complete lists of Israel business firms. All entries in these lists are definitely free of charge with no strings attached. (existing directories are based on paid entries only and are, as a consequence, not always complete). The Business Diary compilations will serve the sole purpose of enabling businessmen to find new prospective customers, to detect better and more efficient sources of supply.
The first list will deal with the TEXTILES INDUSTRY and will be published on March 3, 1954. Editorial deadline will be Wednesday, February 24. All textile manufacturers of any kind, including the local suppliers of the textiles industry, especially those not listed in existing commercial directories, new firms etc. are hereby requested to let us have, at their very earliest, their name, address, telephone, post office box, cable address, activity. No other information will be contained in the address lists — firms interested in conveying additional information will have to use our advertising columns.
In the following issues of the Business Diary (once every three weeks) the following industries will be covered in the same way:—
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Personal Notices

Our beloved mother, grandmother and aunt
Mrs. Frieda Gross, née Peizall
has passed away after a prolonged illness.
J. GROSS and Family
Mt. Carmel, Feb. 14, 1954.

In deep sorrow we announce the death of our beloved mother
Mrs. RAHEL GOTTLIEB נ"ע
Widow of Moshe Gottlieb ז"ל
who passed away after a serious illness at the age of 77.
The funeral took place yesterday, Monday, February 15, at the Haifa Cemetery.
Bereaved Family:
HER SON, Dr. Abraham Gottlieb
DAUGHTERS, Yehevet Segal (née Gottlieb)
Elisheva Gottlieb
MARTHA, widow of Haim Gottlieb
and grandchildren

THE JERUSALEM
POST

Founded as The Palestine Post in 1932. Published daily, except on Saturday, in Jerusalem by The Palestine Post Limited. Registered at the G.P.O.

Founder and Editor
GERSHON AGRON

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HAIFA Bureau:
1 Beh. Khayat, P.O.B. 86, Tel. 4594
(2 lines)
SUBSCRIPTIONS:
Inland IL.36.750. Foreign IL.54. per year

Tuesday, February 16, 1954
Adar 13, 5714.—Jumada II 12, 1373

WHEN Israel and Jordan signed an Armistice Agreement on April 3, 1949 the clear intention of that act was, to quote the agreement, to promote "the return of permanent peace in Palestine." It was negotiated in "pursuance of the resolution of the Security Council of November 16, 1948 calling for the establishment of an armistice in order to eliminate the threat to the peace in Palestine and to facilitate the transition from the present truce to permanent peace..."

NO MORE HAGGLING

The agreement made provision in two articles for the carrying out of these intentions. Under Article XI the execution of the pact was to be supervised by a Mixed Armistice Commission which was to deal immediately with claims or complaints made to it by either side. This body, after marking up some initial successes and having acted as a salutary brake on the danger which arose from time to time that breaches of the agreement might extend into a renewal of warfare, has in the course of time become almost completely ineffective. Its decisions are now regularly made by the casting vote of the chairman and its nature seems to have undergone a grim metamorphosis so that today it is little more than a helpless referee in a contest whose grisly function it is to score up the record of violence.

Israel has long complained that the machinery set up under Article XI does not allow fundamental changes to be made in the nature of the Armistice Agreement which will render it really effective and turn it into an instrument which will begin to promote peace between herself and Jordan. For years her standing offer to sit down to talks with Jordan alone or in concert with the other Arab States in order to hammer out differences and arrive at a peace treaty has been ignored or countered with expressions of hate. Worse than this, the toll of acts of infiltration has mounted in the past few months and its nature has changed from the earlier incursions into Israel to loot and rob, into raids by heavily-armed tactically directed irregulars intent on nothing else than cold-blooded murder.

In view of this breakdown of the machinery of the Armistice Agreement which had at length begun to imperil the Armistice itself, on November 23 last year Israel invoked Article XII of the Agreement. This clause gives either of the Parties the right to call upon "the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convoke a conference of representatives of the two Parties for the purpose of reviewing, revising or suspending any of the provisions of the agreement other than Articles I and III. Participation in such conference is "obligatory upon the Parties."

Since that date Jordan has done everything in her power to evade the issue. She has consulted her fellow members of the Arab League, she has intrigued in many capitals and at the United Nations in an attempt to wriggle out of a clear obligation. On the other hand, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has attempted with more than generous patience to get Jordan's compliance. Israel on its part has absolutely refused to forgo her rights and now at long last it appears that next week the United Nations' summons will go forth to Jordan.

It will be interesting to see whether Amman will now persist in her defiance of the clear terms of her international, legal and moral obligation. It has only to be added that through hesitation to resort to firm measures to bring about a peaceful settlement in the Middle East the U.N. has lost too much prestige for it to allow any more haggling whatsoever over a fundamental issue such as that inherent in the invocation of Article XII by Israel.

End of the Stalin Legend

By HENRY SHAPIRO

STALIN had not been dead a fortnight when it began to look as though he might soon become the "forgotten man" of Russia. The mourning period was hardly over when his name practically disappeared from the Press and radio, his portraits dwindled in size and number and public speakers quoted him less and less. Stalin, as patron-saint of the Peace Partisans' Movement, gave way to Lenin. A new figure appeared on the huge highway posters on the approaches to Moscow — that of Lenin proclaiming "Mir Miru," meaning "peace to the world."

The trimming-down process was initiated even before the funeral when the "collective successors" slashed Stalin's own Presidium from 25 to ten men and substantially altered the top structure of the Party organization. Why such haste to demolish something Stalin had established only five months earlier, people wondered.

And there were murmurs that the lying-in-state had not been arranged with the care, decorum and dignity that people expected on such an occasion. For the hundreds of thousands who had marched in bitter cold, day and night, for three days, to pay their respect to the dead leader, appeared to be in real grief. He was mourned by many of the survivors of the older generation whom he had taken through the victorious war, and by the younger generation that had grown up entirely under the Stalin legend.

Everyone's Father

All good things had come from Stalin (the bad things were unmentionable). He had been the Great Father, the Big Brother and the "Best Friend" of school children, flyers, rabbit-breeders and engineers. And he was mourned by those who thought that Stalin's departure might hasten the coming of war.

The subtleties of the downgrading campaign were evident at once to the more sophisticated Muscovites but soon enough even the simplest people began to express astonishment at a number of curious developments. For example:

1. No documentary film of the funeral was ever shown. The lying-in-state and last obsequies had been elaborately filmed and televised but to this day the picture is buried in the archives of the Ministry of Culture.

2. Popular imagination had pictured a super-monument for the super-man Stalin, something to dwarf Lenin's relatively modest marble Mausoleum on the Red Square. But Stalin's successors decreed the establishment of a Pantheon where Stalin was to share space not only with Lenin but with lesser leaders buried on the same Square. In the meantime he was to lie next to Lenin in the Mausoleum which was to remain closed for some nine months.

3. Not one single public monument was built, no cities, factories, universities or parks named after Stalin. When Andrei Zhdanov had died five years earlier, his name was honoured and perpetuated by the appearance of "Zhdanov" towns, academies, scholarships and streets.

4. A national literary magazine began the serial publication of a new novel, one episode of which dealt with Stalin's visit to a Black Sea cruiser in 1947. For the first time in the history of Soviet fiction, Stalin was described as an ordinary mortal, an aging man with thinning grey-white hair and pockmarked face. The novel even hinted that the Leader had a withered left arm — inconceivable lese majeste a few weeks earlier. Language was then put in Stalin's mouth expressing annoyance at personal adulation and lecturing one minor character in the book on "collective leadership."

In past years, when I would express astonishment to my Russian acquaintances at the anti-intellectual and un-Marxist adulation of Stalin, they would usually say something like this: "Comrade Stalin is a very modest man. He does not need and does not like such hero-worship. But in a country with a strong autocratic and religious tradition, the Party finds it necessary and insists on building up the image of the One Leader as the personification of unity and strength."

The lightning-like speed and thoroughness with which the adulation was discontinued and the debunking began proved the contrary. Stalin himself must have insisted on his own cult and most of the men around him had strong, if silent, reservations about it. With one scratch of the pen, he alone could have stopped the primitive, almost idolatrous hero-worship of his person.

There was an almost calculated offence to Stalin in the amnesty proclaimed by Marshal Klimenti Voroshilov on March 28. Since amnesties are usually declared to mark joyous events such as the end of war, amazed people begun to ask: "Are we supposed to be celebrating our Leader's death?". I was to hear this question often in the succeeding weeks.

This is the seventh article in the series 'Russia after Stalin'.

Some Russians would smile slyly and say: "Funny that all these good things should happen precisely after Stalin's death and not before it."

And people were quick to notice the studied omission of all reference to the "Stalin Constitution" which had suddenly become the "Soviet Constitution." "Stalin" and "Stalinism," two of the most frequently employed adjectives in the Russian language, are no longer in use. Just as there is no more "Stalin Constitution," there are no "Stalinist falcons" no Soviet flyers used to be called, or "Stalinist scientists." It was amusing one May night to hear the announcer of the Moscow Radio say "the Stalin... I mean the Soviet Constitution." Habit was playing tricks with him.

Personality Cult Condemned

Parallel with the "silence treatment," the new leadership developed a technique of using Stalin's own words against him. One article after another in the popular Press and in the learned reviews cited the Generalissimo, book, chapter and verse, to destroy the myth of the infallible, indispensable super-Leader and coincidentally to justify the principle of collective leadership. One newspaper branded the cult of personality as "pure Fascism."

The campaign against the cult of Stalin was continued from a thousand lecture platforms, on all radio stations, in schools and universities where politics are taught. On the 50 anniversary of the Russian Communist Party in July, a 50 page history of it was published which mentioned Stalin only a few times. Stalin's own "Short Course in the History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union," the Bible of Soviet schools, of which 40 million copies had been published, making it the country's best-seller, was replaced by a brand-new text-book expounding the current line.

When the Red Square Mausoleum was reopened, eight-and-a-half months after his death, the embalmed Stalin was shown in marshal's uniform and regalia which he had stopped wearing even before the end of the war. There was irony in the fact, because the man who had really been the architect of Soviet victory had almost become "the unknown soldier" of Russia. On Soviet V-Day, May 9, his name was carefully avoided in the anniversary articles of the daily Press. He was no longer the greatest military genius of all times, the creator and organizer of victory and founder of Stalinist military science. In 1947, according to "Bolshevik" magazine, the most authoritative publication in the Communist world, Stalin had protested against "panegyrics" in his honour which he said "grated upon the ear." He never considered himself an expert on military matters, Stalin is then said to have coyly declared — but apparently nobody believed him until after his death.

Unanimously and studiously, the Press and War Minister Nikolai Bulganin, hailed to remember Stalin, the war-time chief, Bulganin, who played no mean role in the war himself as Marshal Khrushev's chief political commissar, now in his V-Day order-of-the-day to the troops attributed victory to "the leadership of our glorious Communist Party." It was the same on June 22, the anniversary of the German invasion. Not one word of reference to the man without whom the war might have been lost. Only two years ago, two popular semi-documentary films on the battles of Stalingrad and Berlin had shown Stalin laying down the master-law on military strategy and ordering his generals about like errand boys.

The shrinking of Stalin's stature gave rise to the usual rumours about the fate of his family, particularly his son, Lieutenant General Vasili Stalin, former commander of the air defences of the Moscow Military District. Last summer, another man was in charge of the annual air show at Tushino airport which Vasili usually directed. Actually, Vasili lost his Moscow command, probably by order of his father, more than a year ago. I happened to live in the Arbat area a few hundred metres away from General Stalin's highwalled private mansion. Many months before the old father died, I noticed that Vasili's house was uninhabited. The usual guards were missing from the street and there was no sign of life inside. Vasili was probably transferred to another post and the house is being reserved for him.

As the conviction grew among Stalin's collective heirs that Stalin, the idol, had been effectively destroyed in popular imagination, they began to restore a more human Stalin to ordinary historic proportions. By now the adjective "great" is occasionally prefixed to his name on the still relatively rare occasions when the name does appear in print. The highest posthumous tribute paid to him since the funeral addresses came from his old protege, Marshal Klimenti Voroshilov. On November 6, Voroshilov told an audience of picked Party and State leaders at the anniversary meeting of the Revolution of the "heavy loss for the Party and people of the Soviet Union... in the demise of our great leader and war leader genius." It was probably the first and last time since mid-March that Stalin had again been termed "genius." Besides, earlier in his speech, Voroshilov had given Lenin exclusive credit for the "establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat, the regime of workers and peasants."

Myth Shattered

With the myth of Stalin's irreplaceability shattered and the principle of collective leadership established, the new regime finally found a decent burial place for Stalin. It is place Number Four in the Pantheon of Communist fathers, after Marx, Engels and Lenin. Some of the worst methods and techniques of Stalinism have been abandoned and Stalin himself has been rescued from the oblivion to which he seemed destined the first few months after his death. Undeified, he is now honoured but not worshipped. In the current formula, Stalin was simply the *velikii prodolzhatel*, the "great continuer" of the immortal cause of genius, leader Lenin.

Visa Shysters' Tricks Exposed

By THEODOR F. MEYSELS

ONE day an old acquaintance came to see me to enlist my help as a "travel expert." "You know the Consul of X.?" he inquired. My answer was affirmative, the dignitary in question being an honoured friend of mine. "So, will you go with me to Tel Aviv, at my expense of course, and introduce me, so that I can get a visa?" the traveller-to-be continued.

"Well, if your papers are in order," was my surprised answer, "you will get your visa in any case."

"Where are you living," the man exclaimed, "that you don't know that a straight visa to X. without proper intervention is unobtainable. I could get the visa, I am told, for a hundred pounds, but seeing that you know the man..."

Consul's Surprise

The papers of the nervous applicant, I found out, were in perfect order: he had return tickets, a cordial invitation, confirmed by the local authorities, even a bank account in X., quite sufficient to carry him for the time of his stay. He had a costly flat in Jerusalem and a brand-new car; still, he insisted that "everyone had informed him that visas to X. were only to be got by way of certain agents at a fixed price." Just for the fun of it, I took the timid man to the Consulate and saw his passport stamped at a nominal fee without my intervention. Later, in conversation with the Consul, I put him wise about the current rumours and found him pained but not surprised. "I have asked your Foreign Ministry," he informed me, "to start an official enquiry about these dirty stories. Moreover, I was forced to exclude travel agents from intervening in supplying visas for their clients."

Notices barring agents and insisting on the personal appearance of all applicants are now found on the gates of all consular offices. The Diplomatic Corps has just reiterated this rule in a collective statement to the Press. I was astonished that a courtesy service of the travel agent, taken for granted all over the world, should have been so severely forbidden by the foreign representatives in Israel, but delving into the matter, I found their point of view depressingly justified.

The information from my consular friend was fully confirmed by the communiques given to the Press by the British Consul General. From an unimpeachable source, I received the following tale of what the experience of the Swiss Consulate has been.

Whilst people try to get to England "to receive their Canadian visa there." Switzerland is the goal of all eager to return to the "Fleshpots of Germany." That Canadian visas are to be had almost immediately in England, and that to cross illegally at Basle is a pleasant walk, are both fairy tales spread by persons whose only intent is to cash in on commissions on passages and visas without any regard for the future fate of their clients.

The Swiss Consulate, I was told, had variously issued visas to agents who presented prepaid vouchers from Swiss luxury hotels or letters of invitation purportedly written by persons listed in Swiss telephone registers. Some of the vouchers were found to be issued without any cover. Various travellers, who failed to cross the German border, subsequently reported to Swiss Welfare Organizations for support as "refugees from Israel." They did not even know the names of those whose primitively faked letters of invitation had formed the basis for the granting of their visas. But their "travel agents" had instructed them, "if anything goes wrong, just apply to the Swiss, they will support you as they did Hitler's refugees."

Border Crossings

The troubles of the friendly Swiss are by no means over if the man from Israel who entered Switzerland with such a swindled visa really manages to cross the German border. Sooner or later, the German police invariably catch him and since he is "in possession of a valid visa" return him over the Swiss border. Most countries would educate such wanderers for some time in their jails, but the Swiss are practical people. "Good riddance" is their maxim, and as the Israel authorities declare themselves disinterested, quite a number of such "evictees" from Germany were returned at Swiss expense via Swissair, whilst others had to be brought to Genoa by Swiss police officers, (the Italians are unwilling to accept them without escort).

In various cases it had become clear that the travellers were the victims of their agents, who had sent them on their journeys with the absolute assurance which Gogol's hero had for his "dead souls." In their credulity, they had even sold their flats to pay for their passage and "black market visas," leaving not even a roof over their heads when forced to return. No wonder consuls now insist on examining all applicants personally.

The visa-brokers have evolved a technique reminiscent of the man in Podwolossyska, who "knew the army doctor" and took money from the father of every rejected recruit without ever interceding for anyone. Now, that the agents can no longer go to the Consulates, the rumour is skilfully spread that, after the applicant has filed his credentials, an intervention of "the man who knows someone at the Consulate" is obviously indispensable. If the visas are finally granted the agent has gained his commission without even leaving his office.

Pretended Influence

If persons who plan to go abroad for any reason would understand that anyone, who pretends to have some influence with a foreign Consul in the matter of the granting of visas and offers this influence for a financial consideration, is a criminal shyster, a world of distasteful unpleasantness for the foreign and Israel authorities and not least for the traveller himself, would be avoided.

I am perfectly sure that the decent and old-established travel agents of Israel, whom I hold in the highest regard, will agree with this definition of a "visa shyster," as distinctive from an honest travel agent. The Association of Travel Agents should eliminate them as soon as possible.

The unpleasant fact remains that there are many persons in Israel who desire to go abroad, but are unable to fulfil the requirements prescribed by the foreign authorities. The best advice that can be given to these unhappy candidates is to postpone their trips until restrictions for which, one regrets to state, some of our own countrymen are highly responsible, can be eased. The interest of a person not qualified to be granted a legal visa, most decidedly is not served if he is sent abroad with a fraudulent one. Sooner or later, mostly sooner, he will be returned under restraint, having lost a considerable sum of money and facing legal prosecution which we consider well deserved. And every traveller with a fraudulent visa puts his brand-new Israel passport in shame.

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